

Minutes
**Labor-Management Advisory Council on
Workers' Compensation**

January 23, 2009

11:00-11:40 am

Advisory council members present: Lt. Governor John Bohlinger, Jerry Keck, Bill Dahlgren, Don Judge, Doug Buman, Dan Lee, Connie Welsh, Riley Johnson, Bob Worthington, Annette Hoffman.

Core team members present: Jerry Keck, Dustin de Yong, Diana Ferriter, Judy Bovington, George Kochman, Keith Messmer, Anne Wolfinger

Others present: Larry Jones, Liberty Northwest; Kevin Braun, Montana State Fund

I. Continued Discussion of LMAC Bill, HB 238 (LC 1442)

Lt. Governor Bohlinger explained the latest funding concept for WorkSafeMT was approved by the Governor's Office. This funding option would involve drawing down from the working capital for the workers' compensation system one time only for \$1 million, divided into \$500,000 in FY10 and \$500,000 in FY11. All the LMAC members present expressed support for the proposal. Next steps involve discussing the option with stakeholder groups and legislators to gain support for a budget amendment to HB 2 to increase the spending authority of the Employment Relations Division to enact the option.

Jerry noted that HB 238 was scheduled to be heard by the House Business and Labor Committee on Tuesday, Jan. 27, starting at 8:00 am.

II. Status of Other Workers' Compensation Bills

The LMAC reviewed the list of bills being tracked. LC 538, LC 1793, LC 1200 and LC 2069 will be added.

III. Public Comment

Larry Jones, Mike Marsh, and George Kochman addressed the LMAC.

IV. Next Steps

Present HB 238 at House Business and Labor Committee hearing on January 27	Jerry Keck, LMAC co-chairs	Jan-27-2009
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Next teleconference: Friday, Jan. 30, 1:15p